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APPROVAL OF UNDP ASSISTANCE TO A PROJECT OF
CHINA

IPF:(1992-96) $176 600 000

(CPR/91/713) - Post-Flood/Landslide Disaster Rehabilitation Assistance to Fujian & Jiangxi

Date of approval by the AC:[1]	18 November 1992
Expected duration:	One year
Proposed executing agency:	Government (China International Centre for Economic and Technical Exchanges (CICETE))
Government implementing agency:	Provincial Governments of Fujian & Jiangxi
Proposed UNDP contribution:	$500 000 Source of funds: SPR
Total UNDP budget:	$500 000

Project background

Fujian and Jiangxi provinces in China were struck by flash floods and mountain landslides caused by heavy rainfall in early July this year. The floods struck 24 counties, claiming the lives of 360 persons and inflicting injuries on over 7,000 persons. The Government estimates total number of persons affected at almost 20 million and direct economic losses at (RMB) Yuan 5.6 billion (over $1 billion). Damage to infrastructure including roads, railways, electricity and other facilities have been extensive. Almost 400,000 rooms, 1146 schools, 19 clinics were destroyed. It is estimated that a total of 470,000 persons have been rendered homeless and 178,000 persons have lost employment as a result of destruction/damage to factories and businesses. Over 2.5 million tons of grain have been lost and 80,000 hectares of farmland destroyed. Grain output for 1992 for each province is expected to drop by about 30-40 per cent.

Massive efforts are currently underway by the Government to employ flood victims on Government public utility rehabilitation projects. The Government has supplied relief food to over 11 million people and provided housing for about 118,000 persons. It is estimated that 440,000 persons who have lost all their property, housing, and sources of livelihood will have to be relocated to higher grounds and provided with alternative sources of income.

Despite its severity, the disaster received only marginal coverage in the media. However, on 12 August 1992, the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade issued a letter to UNDP indicating the Government's readiness to accept international assistance. This was followed by an inspection mission fielded by UNDP on behalf of the U.N. system from 25-29 August 1992. In addition, the Resident Representative visited the disaster area in mid-October. Aside from limited emergency food assistance by the International Red Cross/Red Crescent Society, no other external assistance has been provided.

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[1] **This Fact Sheet reflects the status of the project/revision at the time it was approved by the Action Committee; modifications to the project/revision may have occurred subsequently.**

While the immediate emergency relief needs are being met by the Government, local resources are insufficient to meet the urgent rehabilitation requirements. So far, the Government's efforts have been concentrated on meeting the basic needs of food and shelter to help victims endure the winter months, and immediate rehabilitation needs of restoring infrastructure, public utilities, housing etc. The Government plans to relocate the most severely affected persons, redistribute land and promote ad hoc economic activities to generate alternative sources of income. However, the Government lacks an overall recovery strategy to ensure that various efforts underway have the desired impact and prevent potentially negative economic, social and environmental consequences.

Description of project

The project will provide rehabilitation assistance to the two most severely affected counties in Fujian and Jiangxi provinces. The project seeks to: (a) strengthen the Government capacity for disaster response through technical advice and training in disaster preparedness and mitigation, and recovery planning with particular emphasis on key sectors and restoration of livelihood; (b) identify alternative strategies for housing reconstruction including through credit schemes, farmland recovery and restoration of livelihood; (c) reconstruct eight to nine most severely damaged or destroyed schools/clinics; and (d) establish credit scheme as a start up for viable income-generating activities for farmers who have permanently or temporarily lost their resource base. National and international consultants from the UNDP-assisted Changzhou Entrepreneur Centre in Jiangsu province will provide technical assistance in this area as they have done for (CPR/91/712) Rehabilitation Assistance to Anhui province.

UNDP technical assistance will focus on disaster preparedness and mitigation aspects including in planning for recovery which will address issues relating to appropriate location for new physical infrastructure, environment, the most vulnerable group; and in construction of houses and facilities to reduce vulnerability. Given the limited SPR funding availability, the reconstruction of schools/clinics will be limited as compared to needs. However, the construction techniques introduced could be applied in future construction of other facilities.

Inputs

UNDP will provide two work-months of international experts and 15 work-months of national experts; in-country training in the areas of housing and economic recovery; building materials for reconstruction of schools/clinics and credit schemes for housing and income generating activities; and miscellaneous costs.

Financial data

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Personnel	65 000
Training	30 000
Equipment	400 000
Miscellaneous	5 000
Total	500 000

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